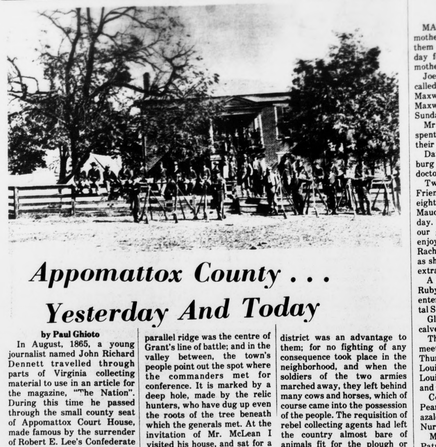

Appomattox County . . . Yesterday And Today

by Paul Ghioto

In August, 1865, a young journalist named John Richard Dennett travelled through parts of Virginia collecting material to use in an article for the magazine, ""he Nation". During this time he passed through the small county seat of Appomattox Court House, made famous by the surrender of Robert E. Lee's Confederate Army four months previous. The following is an excerpt from Dennett's articles which have been since edited and put into book form.

". . . I rode on over a hilly road and just at evening came to the famous little hamlet of Appomattox Court House, where I rested during the night, neither the one sheet, which was all that the bed boasted, nor the vermin, nor the heat, preventing my sleeping soundly.

The little village of Appomattox Court House, distant from Lynchburg about twenty-five miles, is situated on low ground at the source of the Appomattox River, and in a district devoted exclusively to farming. It is, therefore, small even among Virginian towns, containing besides the court-house and a jail in ruins, only some twenty or thirty buildings, mostly of houses in all the county so well merits the name of town. It boasts one hotel and one country store, the stock of goods in the latter sadly needing to be replenished. During the time of my visit, both of these buildings were pretty constantly occupied by men who seemed to have no other business on their hands than to lounge in some easy attitude chewing tobacco and talking to each other, or watching across the muddy road and pools of water the movements of soldiers quartered opposite in the court-house yard. It is the custom of the country, that the general idleness must in great part be attributed, and in part also, I suppose, to the unsettled condition of public and private affairs, which furnishes to every man a wide and fertile field for conjecture and conversation.

Within musket-shot of the court-house and the store is the range of low hills where Lee's army was drawn up on the morning of its surrender; on a parallel ridge was the centre of Grant's line of battle; and in the valley between, the town's people point out the spot where the commanders met for conference. It is marked by a deep hole, made by the relic hunters, who have dug up even the roots of the tree beneath which the generals met. At the invitation of Mr. McLean I visited his house, and sat for a while in the parlor where the articles of capitulation were signed.

Nearly all the furniture which it then contained has been taken away by people anxious to possess some memento of the famous transaction. Tables, chairs, vases, fans, pens, books, everything small and great that could be removed from the room, were eagerly bought, or appropriated without purchase, by enthusiastic visitors. All the movables were exhausted, while yet the demands of the curiosity-seekers were unsatisfied. The standish which the generals used happened to be overturned, and a splash of ink was left upon the window-seat and wall. Urgent requests were repeatedly made for permission to cut out the stained wood and plaster, but this one remembrancer of the event, it having thus become part of the parcel of the real estate, Mr. McLean has been able to keep it for himself. His other souvenirs of the war are less pleasing, for they consist chiefly of Negroes set free, lands abandoned, and houses and barns destroyed in the early campaigns. "Yes, sir," he said to me, "I was the alpha and omega of this contest - the beginning and the end. The first battle of Bull Run, as you call it, was fought on my plantation, and it was in my house that General Lee surrendered his army. But my first state was far worse than my last. At the time of the surrender I escaped all molestation. I could overhear your soldiers saying, 'Well boys, we can afford to let this old fellow along; he's seen about enough of it.' It was true; I had seen plenty to satisfy me and I may say that I was truly thankful that the thing was all over." So far as I could learn none of the villagers suffered at all in person or property at the hands of the Union army, but, on the contrary, its occupation of their district was an advantage to them; for no fighting of any consequence took place in the neighborhood, and when the soldiers of the two armies marched away, they left behind many cows and horses, which of course came into the possession of the people. The requisition of rebel collecting agents had left the country almost bare of animals fit for the plough or carting, and the supply of horses obtained was thus very seasonable. The government has made known its intention of not calling in these animals, at least for the present; and, furthermore, in pursuance of the same benevolent policy, has recently been selling a large number of mules and cavalry horses at Lynchburg. Some of the animals are nearly worthless, but many of them are valuable, and all are cheap; and these sales will doubtless enable the farmers much more easily to get this year's produce to a market, and to prepare a much greater breadth of land for the wheat crop than they otherwise could."

Dennett, John Richard, **The South As It Is: 1965-1866**, Ed. by Henry M. Christman, New York, Viking Press, 1965, pp. 67-69

LOOKING BACK. . .

1. He used "Nothing But Vedrmont Marble" in his monuments:
a.) Chas. H. Fletcher b.) A. S. Woolridge c.) V. Lusardi d.) W. D. Morris
2. Editor of the **Appomattox and Buckingham Times** in 1903:
a.) Francis Paulette b.) John Shearer c.) J. W. Giles d.) A. H. Clement
3. VPI had this many students in 1903:
a.) 700 b.) 1200 c.) 2200 d.) 250
4. It cost $4,000 to build:
a.) Train Depot b.) Wilbun's c.) Courthouse d.) Clerk's Office
5. Former Hixburg resident and Confederate veteran:
a.) John Howard b.) Jason Mathews c.) Clem J. Marshall d.) Robert Vaughn
Question taken from old Appomattox newspapers.

ANSWERS
1.) b 2.) d 3.) a 4.) d 5.) c

Rocks

MAY 12 - A number of mothers had their children with them Sunday. It was a great day for those who had living mothers.

Joe Almond, Tim and Jane called in the home of Graydon Maxwell, Sr. to see Graydon Maxwell, Jr., of Georgia, last Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Toby Inge spent a few days last week with their son, Phillip, of Alexander.

Dave Goin went to Lynchburg last Wednesday to see the doctor.

Twelve members of the Friendship Circle at Rocks and eight visitors had lunch at Maude's Restaurant on Tuesday. Rev. Donald Wagner was our guest speaker. Everyone enjoyed the wonderful lunch. Rachel Ranson had to eat soup as she had just had some teeth extracted.

A speedy recovery is wished Ruby Inge, of Pamplin, who entered Virginia Baptist Hospital Sunday for surgery.

Glenn S. Martin sold his twin calves Saturday.

Those attending the BWMU meeting at Bethel Church on Thursday from Rocks were Louise Roach, Irma Roach, Louise Wagner, Elsie Ranson and Cassie Baldwin.

Congratulations to Mrs. Pearl Wilson for winning an azalea from Superior Tree's Nursery on Friday.

Mrs. W. H. Elder and Patricia left Friday afternoon for Bluefield College where they spent the family with the former's daughter, Joanne and latter's sister.

A number from here attended the revival at Evergreen last week.

A few WMU members met down at Old Rocks Monday night for Prayer meeting.

Mrs. Katherine Dickerson spent the week end in Pennsylvania with friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Vaughan left Friday to spend a few days in New Jersey with relatives.

Raymond Moore, of New York, and friend, John, spent the week end here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Moore, of Pamplin.

A number had lunch at Parkway Restaurant on Friday for Kermit Paulette's birthday.

A very unique Mother's Day program was observed at Rocks Sunday. Special music: Gloria Richardson and Nancy Dawson, "If I Could Only Hear My Mother Pray Again". Special gifts to: The youngest mother, Mrs. Bonita Sprinkle; the oldest mother, Mrs. Bettie Ranson; mother with the most children, Rachel Ranson; mother with the most grandchildren, Mrs. Irna Roach; Remarks about mother: Thomas Ranson Lloyd Richardson, Edward Ranson, Louis Harris, Chuck Webber, Spud Almond and a few others. Blass Ranson and Kenneth Richardson offered prayer for the mothers; Why Mother's Day: Jane and Tim Almond, Patty Roach, Susan Morris and Donna Dickerson. Children's Church had 30 present. Poem, "My Dear Mother" was read by the pastor, Rev. Donald Wagner. This program was fine. If you didn't come out you missed a lot.

"SKINS" THOMPSON of Hixburg, left above, caught eight catfish while fishing in the James River at Hatten's Ferry with his dog, "Lady". The fish, ranging in weight from two to five pounds, were hooked by Mr. Thompson with ivory soap used as bait. Helping to hold the fish on the string is Barrye Wall of Farmville, a summer employee of the **TIMES-VIRGINIAN.**

Somebody was careless!

Jordan News

"The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it." Proverb 10:22

Usher board meeting will be held tonight (Thursday) at 7:30

members of the Rescue Squad will give a program on the proper use of the Rescue Squad. This should be of interest to everyone! See you then?

p.m.

The Junior Choir

Mt. Obed Sunday

3:00 p.m.

Church meeting

Tuesday, May 20, at

All members are

attend.

Ladies Day will

the fourth Sunday

Rev. Wyatt Young

Pilot Mt. Church

guest.

1850 CENSUS OF APPOMATTOX COUNTY

Compiled and published by Stuart McD. Farrar index $10.00 (Tax included) This U. S. Census, of inhabitants, gives the names of the head of each wife, children and everyone living in the home in 1850. It also gives the age, sex, color, plus occupation, value of real estate and number owned by each person.

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Beckham

MAY 12 - Mrs. H. C. Moore, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Schmutz and girls were Sunday dinner guests of Mrs. O. W. Martin, Sr. and Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Martin.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Drumheller, Timmy and Robin Kay Drumheller are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Frank Drumheller, Timmy and Robin Kay Drumheller, of Troy, Mich., are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Winston Martin.

Mr. and Mrs. John Moore, Jerry Moore and Michael Henderson, Ida and Tony Moore were Sunday dinner guest of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Hillsman, of Oakville. Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Moore were supper guest in this home.

Sunday dinner guest of Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Martin were Mrs. Gertrude Burge, Mr. Ricky Burge, Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Jamerson, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Tweedy, Michelle and Tracy Tweedy.

Jennifer Schmutz spent Saturday with Melanie Morris.

Sunday dinner guest of Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs Martin were Mr. and Mrs. M. G. Martin, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Larry Yeatts, Gary Yeatts, Mr. and Mrs. Sonny Carter, Crystal and Karen, Mrs. Geraldine Moore, Debbie and Gwen, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Martin, A. C., Michael and Edward, and Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Reynolds, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Moore, Jr. visited in the afternoon.

Mr. Abner Martin, of Richmond and Mrs. Josephine Duncan, of family, of Martinsville, spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. Howlett Drinkard, Donald Lee, and Mrs. Eunice Martin.

Miss Eunice Martin was honored on her birthday Sunday with lunch on the lawn at her home. Rev. Leon Lawrence and members of her family were present.

Miss Patricia Martin spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. Robert Morris and family and Mrs. S. G. Martin.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Burge visited Mrs. Beulah Goodbar, of Monroe, Sunday.

collar shirt is designed to be worn out, over the collar and lapel of the suit jacket.

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Strawberry Delight

2 (3 oz) packages strawberry gelatin
1 cup boiling water
2 (1 oz.) packages frozen sliced strawberries, thawed
1 can (4 oz.) crushed pineapple
3 medium bananas, mashed
1 pint sour cream

Combine gelatin with boiling water and dissolve thoroughly. Fold strawberries, pineapple and bananas in juice.

Put ½ of mixture into a 9 x 15 baking dish and chill for 1½ hours (until firm). Keep other half warm on sink. Remove first half from refrigerator and spread sour cream over the top of mixture and then gently spoon on the second half of the mixture. Refrigerate and serve cold. Serve 18.

THE LUV'N OVEN

Inflation Fighter

S-P-E-C-I-A-L-S

MONDAY — BBQ BURGER, french fries, small soft drink. Reg. $1.29 — SAVE 30¢ — **99¢**

TUESDAY — FOOT-LONG HOTDOG, french fries, small soft drink. Reg. $1.55 — SAVE 60¢ — **95¢**

WEDNESDAY — 2-PIECE CHICKEN DINNER, roll, gravy, mashed potatoes. Reg. $1.20 — SAVE 25¢ — **95¢**

THURSDAY — REGULAR HAMBURGER, french fries, small drink. Reg. $1.05 — SAVE 26¢ — **79¢**

FRIDAY — FISH 'N CHIPS, small soft drink. Reg. $1.55 — SAVE 30¢ — **$1.25**

SATURDAY — BOX (5) PIECES OF GOLDEN BROWN CHICKEN. Reg. $3.20 — SAVE 45¢ — **$2.75**

SUNDAY — BARREL OF CHICKEN, (21) golden brown pieces). Reg. $7.50 — SAVE $1.00 — **$6.50**

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DAVID ROGER DRINKARD CITED IN "WHO'S WHO PUBLICATION

FERRUM- David Roger Drinkard is among twenty-five Ferrum College students selected for inclusion in the 1975 edition of "Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges."

Mr. Drinkard, is the son of Mr. Fleming W. Drinkard, Route 8, Box 284, Appomattox and the late Roberta G. Drinkard.

The selections were based on each student's scholarship, leadership and participation in edu...al and extracurricular activities, general citizenship and promise of future usefulness to society.

Ferrum College is a private, two-year, Methodist - related college, near Roanoke, with an enrollment of approximately 1,050. Ferrum's curriculum includes transfer or terminal courses in engineering, business, and the liberal arts.

David plans to return to Ferrum College in the fall of '75 for the senior division program, majoring in church careers and services.

Gladstone

Mrs. O. L. Brown is a patient in Virginia Baptist Hospital. We hope she will soon recover.

Mrs. Jack Watts, Karen Joey and Clarence, from Manassas, Va., spent the week end in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Willie Cyrus. Mrs. Watts visited her mother, Mrs. Belle Mundy, who spent the week end with the Cyrus.

Mr. Luther Tyree is a patient in Lynchburg General Hospital. We hope he may soon recover.

Mrs. Alice Bays entered the Lynchburg General Hospital on Tuesday where she will undergo surgery.

Mr. Troy Harris, of Chesapeake, spent the week end with his family.

Mrs. Florence McFadden and Mr. and Mrs. Edward McFadden spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. Meadows and family in Maryland.

Visiting Mr. and Mrs. Burke Smoot on Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Herman Johnson, from Clifton Forge, Va., Mr. and Mrs. Larry Smoot and Kelly, from Lynchburg.

Sunday dinner guest in the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Spiggle were Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Spiggle, Terri and Paul Wade, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Granato, from Appomattox. Visiting in the evening were Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Jamerson, from Lynchburg.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Hesson and Mrs. W. E. Akers spent the week end at White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.

We were so sorry to hear of the death of one of our good neighbors, Mr. Royal Moore who passed away at the University of Virginia Hospital on Sunday. We extend sympathy to the family.

Miss Tamara Goosbey spent the week end in Danville.

Visiting Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Harris and Callie on Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Bill Allen, of Lynchburg.

Mrs. Russell Moore attended graduation exercises at Southern Seminary Junior College where her daughter, Miss Vicki Moore, graduated on Saturday.

Mr. Russell Ragland is a patient in Emmett Memorial Hospital in Clifton Forge, Va. We hope he may soon recover.

Mr. David Jobe, a student at VPI and BSU spent the week end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Horace Jobe.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Carmody, Jr. and family from Chesapeake, Va., spent the week end with Allen, Jr's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Allen Carmody, Sr.

Courtney and Stephanie Banton, of Richmond, spent the week end with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Brown.

Attending the James River Association on Thursday at First Baptist Church, Dillwyn, Va. from Gladstone memorial Church were Rev. J. N. Williams, Mr. Willie Cyrus, Mrs. Bea Wallace, mrs. W. E. Akers, Mrs. Allen Carmody, Mr. and Mrs. John Spiggle and from Liberty Chapel Church, Mrs. Roies Williams. Mrs. Lonnie Reynolds and Mrs. Harold Cheatham.

DRINKARD

Completes First Aid Classes

Thirty-four, the largest number to take a first aid class at one time, completed the Red Cross Course in First Aid and Personal Safety last Thursday night given by the Appomattox County Rescue Squad.

Instructors for this course were P. O. (Pete) Doss and Grover Beasley, Jr.

Completing the course were: Barbara J. Mayberry, Nancy M. Mayberry, Rita Reynolds, Merlie Reynolds, Brenda Brinkley, June Coleman, Peggy Mayberry, Brenda Coleman, Helen Coleman, Willa Coleman, Johnny Goin, Brenda Goin, Rhonda Doss, Clarine Mays, Avis Rose Evans, Ruby Thomas, Velma Johnson, Virginia F. Doss, Emma Norcross, Linda C. Howard, Carolyn Mayberry, Deloris Hopkins, Jean M. Chenault, Thama Elder, Craten P. Austin, Virginia D. Williams, Hilda L. Whitman, Faye K. Bugg, Hugh Bugg, Nadine Bugg, Elizabeth Richardson, Margaret A. Nash and Cindy O'Brien.

Group To Appear In Appomattox

Pictured above are members of the Baptist Student Union of Radford College who will present a musical drama entitled, "The Clown" at Liberty Baptist Church on Saturday evening, May 17, at 7:30. For the Youth Coffee House. Mrs. Anne Taylor will be directing the presentation and all youth of the county are invited to attend.

On Sunday morning, May 18, at 11:00 the Baptist Student Union group will conduct the morning worship service at Elon Baptist Church, Pamplin. The public is cordially invited to attend.

First Baptist

Services were held at the First Baptist Church Sunday at 11:00 a. m. Music was rendered by the Senior Choir. We were happy to have Miss E. Jordan to worship with us and she gave some wonderful remarks which were enjoyed by all.

Mr. Steve Watson of Richmond, Va., visited his mother, Mrs. Louise Watson also family over the week end.

There will be some singing this Sunday evening, May 18, 1975 at 2:30 p. m. sponsored by the Deacon and Deaconess Board. The public is invited. We hope everyone had a wonderful Mothers Day.

MRS. RUTH M. WILLIAMSON was honored Sunday, May 11, by the members of Red Oak Baptist Church. She was named "1975 Red Oak Baptist Church mother of the year" by vote of the Sunday School and church. Mrs. Williamson is active in Sunday School, church services and the Women's Missionary Society. The church presented her with a corsage of carnations at the special Mother's Day service. Mrs. Williamson also received the prize as the oldest mother present on Mother's Day.

ROCKS QUARTET TO SING MAY 18th

The Rocks Quartet will be singing at the Gospel Festival in Crewe on Sunday, May 18. The festival will begin at 1 p.m.

On Sunday, May 18, at 8 p.m. the Rocks Quartet will be singing at the Staunton River Baptist Church in Brookneal.

THE NEW HOPE HOUR

Sun. - 11:00 a.m. — WTTX 1280 khc

New Hope Baptist Church — Rt. 24 - East - Appomattox, Va.

Rev. J. J. Bowman, Interim Pastor

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DR78-14	Gremlin, Hornet, Javelin, Valiant, Duster, Barracuda, Maverick & others	$67.85	$33.92	$2.45
ER78-14	Matador, Ambassador, Nova, Chevelle, Camaro, Dart, Mustang, Cougar & others	$69.00	$34.50	$2.55
FR78-14	Torino, Ambassador, Camaro, Cutlass, Chevelle, Challenger, Roadrunner, Charger & others	$74.55	$37.27	$2.67
HR78-14	Matador Wagon, Sportwagon, Vista Cruiser, LeMans Wagon, Charger Wagon & others	$83.75	$41.87	$3.09
GR78-15	Chevrolet, Polara, Galaxie, Monterey, Fury, Catalina & others	$79.80	$39.90	$2.96
HR78-15	LeSabre, Riviera, Newport, Galaxie, Monterey, Olds, Pontiac & others	$85.75	$42.87	$3.17
LR78-15	Cadillac, Buick Estate Wagon, Imperial, Monaco Wagon & others	$92.85	$46.42	$3.46

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